

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

Austin 11, Texas

WILL WILSON ATTORNEY GENERAL

December 4, 1961

Honorable J. W. Edgar Commissioner of Education Texas Education Agency Austin, Texas

Opinion No. WW-1206

Re: Construction of Subdivision 6b of Section 1 of Article 2922-14 as amended in reference to the salary of a part-time principal in two-year high school districts.

Dear Dr. Edgar:

We are in receipt of your request for opinion on the above captioned question.

Prior to amendment Subdivision 6b of Section 1 of Article 2922-14 of Vernon's Civil Statutes provided in part as follows:

"b. Principals in Districts Having a Two-Year Accredited High School But No Four-Year Accredited High School.

In such a district having nineteen (19) or fewer classroom teachers the designated classroom teacher who serves as part-time principal shall be paid an additional monthly salary allowance of Fifty Dollars (\$50) per month, and the annual salary of such part-time principal shall be the monthly base salary plus increments multiplied by twelve (12).

The 57th Legislature by Senate Bill No. 1 amended Section 1 of Article 2922-14 "to read hereinafter as follows:" As so amended Subdivision 6b of Section 1 of Article 2922-14 now reads as follows:

"b. The classroom teacher who serves as part-time principal on a campus to which are assigned seven (7) or more classroom teacher units

shall receive an additional salary allowance equal to fifteen (15%) per cent of his salary. The annual salary of a part-time principal shall be the monthly base salary, plus increments <u>multiplied</u> by <u>nine</u> and one-half $(9\frac{1}{2})$." (Emphasis added)

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Your request informs us that the Nash Independent School District is operating a two-year high school district, and has more than seven (7) classroom teachers on its campus. The District's contention may be quoted from your letter in part as follows:

". . . It The Nash Independent School District points out that this Agency The Texas Education Agency should not apply or construe the phrase 'multiplied by nine and one-half $(9\frac{1}{2})$ ' appearing in Article 2922-14 as amended, as applying to allocations for part-time principals of accredited two-year high school situations for the reason that the prior law specifically provided for twelve month part-time principals and the amendatory law did not clearly repeal the special treatment, thus creating ambiguity in the law."

The Court in <u>International & G. N. Ry. Co. v.</u> Bland, 181 S.W.2d 504, 506 (Civ.App. 1915) states:

"It is a well-known rule of construction that when the Legis-lature amends an article of the Revised Statutes by referring to it by number, and, as in this instance, declaring that it: 'shall hereinafter read as follows:', the article as amended is intended by the Legislature to take the place in the Revised Statutes formerly occupied by the superseded article. In fact, the language quoted admits of no other construction. .."

It therefore follows that the salary of the part-time principal shall be the monthly base salary, plus increments multiplied by nine and one-half $(9\frac{1}{2})$, as provided in said amendment.

Honorable J. W. Edgar, page 3 (WW-1206)

SUMMARY

Under the terms of Senate Bill No. 1, Acts 57th Leg., 2d C.S., 1961, Subdivision 6b of Section 1 of Article 2922-14 has been amended, and the annual salary of a parttime principal shall be the monthly base salary, plus increments multiplied by nine and one-half $(9\frac{1}{2})$, as provided in said amendment.

Yours very truly,

WILL WILSON Attorney General of Texas

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Assistant

APPROVED:

OPINION COMMITTEE W. V. Geppert, Chairman

Charles R. Lind Joseph Trimble Pat Bailey Elmer McVey

REVIEWED FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL BY: Houghton Brownlee, Jr.